

Remarks

Summary of the Office Action - Status of the Claims

Claims 6, 22, 24-26, 30, 36, and 38-41 were pending in the Office Action.

Claims 6, 22, 24-26, 30, and 38-41 were allowed.

Claim 36 was rejected.

Applicants' Reply

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 6, 22, 24-26, 30, and 38-41. In this response, Applicants cancel claim 36 without prejudice and address the Examiner's rejection. Cancellation of the claim is being made solely to expedite prosecution and does not constitute an acquiescence to the Examiner's rejection. Applicants reserve the option to further prosecute the same or similar claims in the present or a subsequent application. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 6, 22, 24-26, 30, and 38-41 are pending.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claim 36 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

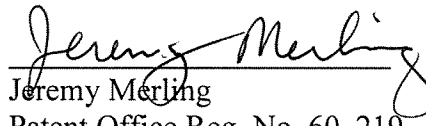
While Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection, however, to advance the prosecution of this application, claim 36 has been canceled without prejudice. As such, the rejection of claim 36 is now moot.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 02-4377. In the event that the application is not deemed in condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned in an effort to advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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